In the Name of God Amen. I Joshua Merriken of Baltimore County in the Province of Maryland being Sick & weak of Body but in perfect Mind & Memory Thanks be Almighty giving to God for the Same, Knowing that it is appointed for all Men once to Die do therefore ordain constitute & appoint this my Last ~~my last~~ Will & Testament in Manner & Form following, that is to say Chiefly & first of all I recommend my Soul into the Hands of its merciful Creator trusting alone in the Merits of his Only Son my blessed Saviour & Redeemer that with my Body it will be raised to a glorious Resurrection at the Last day and my Body I bequeath it to the Earth from whence it came to be decently Interd at the discretion of the Executor of this my Last Will & Testament as hereafter shall be appointed And for my Worldly Estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me withall I ~~give~~ Will, bequeath & dispose of in Manner & Form following

Imprimis I give unto my dearly beloved Wife Diana Merriken half the Land that is within the Great Pasture Fence to begin at Georges Hill Gate & to run North East untill it Intersects the said Fence my Will is that my said Wife Enjoy the lower half of the said Land when so devided during her natural Life

Item I bequeath unto my Well beloved Son Hugh Merriken the upper remaining half of the aforesd Land to him & the Heirs of his Body Lawfully begotten in Marriage for Ever & to him & them & their Heirs for Ever lawfully begotten in the Blood, my Will is that the said Hugh Merriken his Heirs shall have no Power to sell dispose Mortage or in any ways Incumber the said Land to the

End

End of the World

Item I give & bequeath in Case my Wife should be delivered of a son & waxeth Strong my Will & desire is that he shall hold all the Lower part after the decease of my aforesaid Wife Diana of the aforesaid Land & my Will is if the aforesaid Child my Wife goes with is a Son that he be Christened by the name of Joshua & my Will is that he the said Joshua shall have hold the Occupy possess enjoy all the aforesaid lower part of ~~the~~ Land to him & his Heirs lawfully begotten for Ever not to have any Power to sell dispose Mortage or any wise Incumber any of the said Land to the End of the World my Will is that if either of my Sons should die without Issue lawfully begotten as aforesaid that the remaining Son that shall be the Longest liver shall enjoy all the aforesaid Land to him & his Heirs lawfully begotten as aforesaid for Ever

Item I give & bequeath unto my well beloved Daughter Ann Merriken all the outward part of the aforesaid Land called by the Name of Merrikens Inheritance for Ever joyning to the aforesaid Neck Fence, called so by a reservey to her & her Heirs lawfully begotten of her Body in Marriage for Ever

Item I give & bequeath unto my well beloved Daughter Mary Merriken all that Parcell of Land that lyes at the head of Bush River called by the Name of Merrikens Outlots containing Two Hundred Acres beginning at the End of the West North West Line of a Tract of Land called Horse Range & running as the Certificate Expresses round the aforesaid Horse Range to the Head of hat her Creek then Traversing the Creek to the Mouth then up the said River to the Mouth ~~of~~ of a Cove then up the said Cove to a beginning Tree of a Tract of Land called Hathaways Trust at the head of that Cove then running with Hathaways Trust to the beginning Tree of Horse Range then running with Horse Range the Outcourses

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